Standard Aerospace References

The Army Air Forces in World War II, edited by Dr. Wesley E. Craven and Dr. J. L. Cate (University of Chicago Press, 7 volumes, $8.50 each).

Volume I: *Plans and Early Operations*, January 1939 to August 1942.
Volume II: *Europe—Torch to Pointblank*, August 1942 to December 1943.
Volume III: *Europe—Argument to V-E Day*, January 1944 to May 1945.
Volume IV: *The Pacific—Guadalcanal to Saipan*, August 1942 to July 1944.
Volume V: *The Pacific—Matterhorn to Nagasaki*, June 1944 to August 1945.
Volume VI: *Men and Planes. Activities of the Army Air Forces in the Zone of the Interior.*
Volume VII: *Services around the World.* The story of the services organizations in World War II, air transport, aviation, engineers, weather and communications, medicine, morale and air-sea rescue, women in the AAF, and redeployment and demobilization.

Air Force Combat Units of World War II, edited by Maurer Maurer, USAF Historical Division, Air University, Department of the Air Force, 1960 (U.S. Government Printing Office, 1961, $2.50).

Aeronautics and Astronautics, an American chronology of science and technology in the exploration of space 1915–1960 by Eugene M. Emme, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 1961 (Government Printing Office, $1.75).

The History of the United States Air Force, 1907–1957, edited by Dr. Alfred Goldberg (D. Van Nostrand, $6.75). The complete history of the USAF by a group of Air Force historians.

The United States Air Force in Korea, 1950–1953 by Dr. Robert F. Futrell (Duell, Sloan & Pearce, $12.50).

The Aerospace Yearbook, annual editions, edited by James J. Haggerty, Jr. (American Aviation Publications, $10.00).

The Air Forces of the World, William Green and John Fricker, 1959 (Hanover House, $10.95). A comprehensive picture-narrative guide of the history, development, and present strength and composition of the Air Forces of 83 nations.

A Chronology of American Aerospace Events, Department of the Air Force, Air Force Pamphlet No. 190–2–2, 3 January 1961. Contains two chronologies of American aerospace events by year and by day of month.

U.S. Air Force aerospace craft, Department of the Air Force, Air Force Pamphlet No. 190–2–1, 1 June 1960. Contains detailed information about current aerospace craft in Air Force inventory.

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Documentary Collections Related to the U.S. Air Force

A Guide for Military Writers

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U.S. AIR FORCE BOOK PROGRAM

The U.S. Air Force Book Program is designed to encourage and assist writers and publishers in doing books on Air Force, air power, astronautics, space and related professional subjects and to provide specific forms of assistance in the research, writing, publishing, promotion, and marketing of aerospace books.

The program's operations encompass a wide variety of juvenile and adult books—from scholarly and professional tomes to fiction. Included are biographies and memoirs of air pioneers or prominent airmen, personal narratives and operational accounts, air power monographs, special studies, edited collections, etc.

The program extends official support and cooperation to any writer or publisher with an acceptable book proposal related directly or indirectly to Air Force subject matter, to aeronautics and astronautics, to the story of man's conquest of air and space.

Further details on the USAF Book Program's operations and the specific forms of cooperation and assistance it offers (as well as a complete listing of books published in conjunction with the program from 1955 to the present) can be obtained by writing to Chief, USAF Book Program, Office of Information, Office, of the Secretary of the Air Force, Washington 25, D.C.

Books and Ideas...

Documentary Collections Related to the U.S. Air Force

A Guide for Military Writers

MAJOR JAMES F. SUNDERMAN

AS THE Aerospace Age has caught the serious attention of the American public, a growing demand has arisen for wide variety of Air Force material for both magazine and book publication.

Curiously the interest in space has also stimulated an unusually strong interest in the past—in aviation and air power history. Books and magazine articles dealing with air historical topics—the evolution of flight, pioneer airmen, the technology of aeronautics, World War I and World War II air combat—are eagerly sought by readers of all ages. Increasing numbers of publishers and writers, determined to supply the fast-growing, two-pronged requirement for serious literature on man's conquest of the air and his coming exploration of the cosmos, seek Air Force help to probe into the past as well as examine the present and future.

To meet this demand the Air Force Office of Information, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, maintains the Magazine and Book Branch and its subunit, the USAF Book Program. The principal function of this office is to bring publishers together with authors writing on Air Force subjects and to assist such publishers and authors in finding mutually interesting subjects for publication. It also lends assistance to military and free-lance authors in getting the necessary documentary and research materials needed for sound, accurate presentation of the Air Force story.

Since one of the first questions that this office receives from almost every prospective author, whether military or civilian, is "Where are the records?" I am offering the following description of the principal collections of aerospace reference and documentary material. This does not pretend to be exhaustive. There are many other smaller or more specialized collections. Help in gaining access to these research sources may be had from the Magazine and Book Branch, Office of Information, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, Washington 25, D. C., or from the address listed in the individual accounts of the various facilities.

Good research makes good writing!

USAF Historical Division Archives

The Archives, located at Air University, Maxwell AFB, Alabama, is the official keeper of unit histories and supporting documents for the Air Force

and its predecessor organizations: Army Air Forces, Air Corps, Air Service, and Aviation Section of the Signal Corps.

Two thousand 4- and 5-drawer filing cabinets house more than one million documents relating to military aviation, constituting the broadest and most valuable sources on USAF history, contemporary and past, existing anywhere. Half the collection covers World War II years, 1941–1945, when thousands of AAF units world-wide—squadrons, groups, wings, numbered Air Forces, commands—prepared monthly unit histories. These unit histories are not of equal merit, but most are remarkably complete, filled with detailed personnel, operational, and housekeeping data of unusual importance and interest. Supporting documents for the war period include general and special orders, intelligence reports, mission plans, target folders, bomb damage assessment reports, mission debriefing files, messages, escape and evasion reports, maps, charts, photographs, plans, evaluations, statistics, and scores of additional memorabilia created by the paper work of modern warfare. The documents dealing with plans and air operations abound with human-interest stories and an abundance of combat lore that has hardly been touched.

Most of the other half of the Archives collection consists of Air Force unit histories and supporting operational documents from 1945 to the present, including the extensive Korean air war materials. New unit histories are received, cataloged, and filed on a continuing basis. The major commands, numbered Air Forces, and comparable-level organizations submit their histories on a semiannual basis; lower-echelon units (divisions, wings, groups, squadrons, etc.), on a quarterly basis. The inflow of current documents to the Archives averages around 22,000 items per year.

The wide range of special sources is exemplified by collections such as War College lectures, minutes of Department of Defense Military Liaison Committee meetings, and a detailed chronology of the U.S. military air arm beginning with the year 1861. In addition the Archives holds private collections and photographs assembled by such noted airmen as Muir S. Fairchild, Millard F. Harmon, Aubry L. Moore, Elmer E. Adler, Martin F. Scanlon, Robert Merrill Lee, John G. Williams, Curtis E. LeMay, H. H. Arnold, and others.

Scores of monographs, on subjects from limited war to strategic doctrine to balloon reconnaissance and World War I aces, have been prepared by the USAF historians from this vast storehouse of primary sources, and these serve as ready references for facts, meanings, and interpretations.

Subject coverage thus is wide, ranging from earliest aviation history to recent developments in the fields of ballistic missiles, earth satellites, and space biology. The Archives spans the life of the USAF from 1907 onward, forming a collection without equal for the student and researcher of American military aviation.

Some of the material in the Archives, largely of post-World War II vintage, is classified, but a continuing program of downgrading is under way. Whole areas of World War II materials have recently been opened. Under certain conditions access to specialized topics still within security areas can be given to writers working on historical projects. Application for such

permission should be made to the Chief, USAF Book Program, SAFOI, Washington 25, D. C.

Air University Library

The Air University Library at Maxwell AFB, officially designated Fairchild Library, provides a university-level bibliographic, documentary, and circulating reference operation suitable in quantity and quality to support the requirements of the Air University school system.

The AU Library collection numbers approximately 1,000,000 items and embraces extensive unpublished official matter, military regulations, technical manuals and pamphlets, and U.S. Government publications related to the Air Force, as well as books and extensive files of journals, magazines, and newspapers. All items are at finger-tip availability through the catalog system, which for numerous topics is supplemented by special bibliographies. The Audio-Visual Center of the Library stocks maps, aeronautical charts, films, flat pictures, filmstrips, and slides. The Library's inventory breaks down as 240,000 books; 520,000 documents; 75,000 regulations, reports, etc.; 2500 magazine and newspaper subscriptions; 280,000 maps and charts; 11,000 films, slides, etc.

The 520,000 documents comprise official studies, reports, plans, investigations, orders, policies, and correspondence and other unpublished items such as Air University student theses. Much is classified, all is fully cataloged in the most completely analyzed collection of its kind in the Department of Defense. The 240,000-book collection contains carefully selected titles in all fields of knowledge relating to aerospace power, military science, natural science, political science, economics, engineering. It forms perhaps the most complete book collection on aviation and military air to be found anywhere. The periodical subscriptions provide world-wide coverage, leaning strongly to military subjects, particularly aerospace power. Past issues are available in extensive back files. The Library collection is available to the armed forces, individuals or units, through standard library procedures, including interlibrary loan. Items are readily accessible to other authorized users, consistent with security regulations. Research in the AU Library is permissible for authorized military and free-lance civilian writers. Application should be made to the Chief, USAF Book Program, SAFOI, Washington 25, D.C., or to the Director of Information, Hq Air University, Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

Air Force Museum

While generally known for its collection of historical Air Force aircraft, the Air Force Museum maintains a Reference and Research Division comprising 500,000 documents, films, and books portraying the history of the USAF and recording technological advances in aerospace power. These historical properties are directly associated with celebrated events, important eras, and notable achievements of the Air Force. Thus the materials here cover a vast subject field and the time period beginning with the Wright brothers in 1903 and running to the present age of space.

Since the aerial vehicle itself is the central item of the Museum, the documentary collection fans out from the specific aircraft into detailed presentation of airplanes, components, equipment, and weapons and of the men whose accomplishments, feats of heroism, and sacrifices have made AF history. The materials run the gamut from the A-1 through the X-15. Listed by model of airplane, the documents are categorized under the headings of armament, color-markings-insignia, cockpit, design and modification, drawings, erection and maintenance, empennage, engine equipment (cameras, radio, radar, etc.), fusilage, history (specific flights, log books, units, personnel), instruments, landing gear, operation, performance, photographs, petroleum-oil-lubricants, propellers, specifications, tanks, and wing. The same order and nature of documents are to be found on lighter-than-air craft, helicopters, amphibians, missiles, rockets, and manned and unmanned space vehicles. Reference material also deals in general aircraft areas: engines, components, instruments, equipment, armament, clothing, etc.

The reference files are available for personal research from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday. Facilities are not available to provide research assistance by mail or to copy documents or photos. The required document or photo, however, can be loaned to an authorized applicant for a period of 30 days. Application may be made direct to the Director, Air Force Museum, or to the Chief, USAF Book Program, SAFOI, Washington 25, D.C.

Air Force Branch, Military Personnel Records Center

For writers who are interested in biographical information on military airmen, the Air Force Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, maintains and services the master personnel records of all officers and enlisted persons who have been completely separated from the Air Force or its predecessor organizations. Additionally it holds prior service records of enlisted men who are currently on active duty. Detailed description of the records can be found in AF Manuals 35-9 (for officers) and 35-12 (for airmen).

Other categories of records include original daily military strength reports and all noncurrent permanent records of long-time value created by AF field organizations, such as (1) claims, (2) courts martial, (3) medical records, (4) morning reports, (5) official publications, (6) research and development studies, reports, proposals, plans, policies, programs, and a host of other R&D items, (7) technical orders, (8) temporary records such as leave, civilian personnel separation, patent and copyright, training directives, etc., (9) organizational records comprising files, correspondence, management, budget, etc., and (10) classified administrative records.

Additional permanent AF records, covering every item of an official nature and having a retention value of ten years or longer, are sent to some 37 record depositories located throughout the 50 States, the Philippine Islands, and Allied countries. A listing of the types and series of these records and their depository locations can be obtained from the General Services Administration. Significant among these, for the air historical researcher, is the

Federal Records Center, GSA, Alexandria, Virginia, which holds, for example, much of the captured Luftwaffe files, the complete files of the Twentieth Air Force and its operations against Japan, and other significant documents in AF history and U.S. air power. Much of this material is still classified; however, research into it is possible upon application to the Chief, USAF Book Program, SAFOI.

The St. Louis Center also maintains a decoration file listing all decorations to AF personnel. The 3-by-5 cards give the man's name and serial number, decorations earned, and the order authorizing them. Occasionally of great value to the writer are personal papers of Air Force notables found in their personal records folders or filed with the records of the organizations to which they were assigned.

Application for research privileges or requests for specific information should be sent to the Chief, Air Force Branch, Military Personnel Records Center, 9700 Page Boulevard, St. Louis 32, Missouri, or to the Chief, USAF Book Program, SAFOI.

United States Air Force Academy Library

This new facility, located on the Academy site 16 miles north of Colorado Springs, provides a well-balanced reference and reading collection of materials generally found in leading liberal arts and engineering colleges and universities. Since its founding less than a half-dozen years ago, special gifts to the Library are developing a comprehensive reference and basic research collection in the field of air power and aeronautical history. A special collection of more than 100,000 unique and rare items relates to the growth and development of the Air Force Academy and its curriculum.

As of 1 May 1961 the Library contained over 130,000 books, 1100 current issues of magazines, and regular editions of 90 U.S. and foreign newspapers. It is a selective depository for United States Government and United Nations documents, a source of technical reports such as those of RAND, ASTIA, NASA, and TEMPO. Its microfilm collection numbers more than 8800 reels. A comprehensive series of pamphlets, brochures, and the like covers data on Air Force installations and units world-wide.

By permission of the Library of Congress and the Mitchell family, the Academy Library has obtained duplicate copies of many items contained in the papers of General William Mitchell. The papers of Lt. General Hubert R. Harmon, the first Superintendent of the AF Academy, are also in its special collection.

Research facilities of the Academy Library can be made available to qualified persons if they will write to the Director of the Library, USAF Academy, or to the Chief, USAF Book Program, SAFOI.

Air Force Information Offices

Air Force Information Offices, from Hq USAF down through major commands, numbered Air Forces, centers, services, and lower-echelon organizations,

provide excellent to limited resources for aerospace research, especially on more current aspects of Air Force operations, personnel, logistics, etc.

Each Information Office in the field maintains a file of current official press releases, background data, pamphlets, brochures, monographs on special topics, etc., and a photo file covering personnel in the organization, its operations, and its related activities. The majority of these photos are not duplicated in the central AF photo files at Hq USAF; thus they provide the writer and researcher a grass-roots coverage of the AF at the unit level not available elsewhere.

From major-command level on down, the USAF historical program comes under the Office of Information. Each organizational unit maintains historical files which offer primary sources for research. While security classification of current unit histories precludes open use, special topics from historical documents can frequently be downgraded. Local information officers can also draw on the base photo laboratory for special coverage of AF topics.

Research Studies Institute

The USAF Historical Division, Research Studies Institute, Air University, Maxwell AFB, Alabama, directs the Air Force-wide historical program. This office has published scores of historical studies on special air power topics, such as "Development of the Army Air Arm, 1917–1941." These studies provide detailed and authentic sources for the writer. A listing of the unclassified Studies may be requested from the Director of Information, Air University, Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

Three Air University Research Studies Institute publications provide specialized bibliographic guidance to official and unofficial periodical literature and books and to certain official studies on Air Force, air power, space, and related military subjects: *An Airpower Bibliography,* prior to 1955; *An Airpower Bibliography, 1955–1956;* and *A Space Bibliography, Through 1958.* These are invaluable reference sources to published literature on aviation and aerospace from the early days to the present.*

Air Force Library Service

The Air Force library system consists of some 261 main libraries. This includes a library at every Air Force base, technical libraries at research, development, and other specialized activities, and the academic-type libraries at the Air University and the Air Academy described above. These libraries together with library extension activities, including branch and field libraries which serve Air Force personnel wherever located, total some 6486 library outlets. The total book stock of all facilities numbers 5,202,266 volumes.

The main libraries, together with branch and field library extensions, contain general and reference material with balanced collections covering

*The USAF Book Program, Office of Information, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, Washington 25, D.C., maintains an up-to-date bibliography of commercial books on aerospace and related subjects published from 1955 to present (both hard and paper cover). Copies are available upon request.

types and subject matter to meet the reading requirements of the personnel served. Most libraries have a working coverage of aeronautics and aerospace books, with emphasis on those volumes that relate directly or indirectly to AF history or the AF story. A book kit of 80 new clothbound titles and a 50-title paperbound kit are distributed monthly to each main library and to library extension activities. In addition to new books of general interest these kits include the principal new air and space titles. Base librarians also have the authority and the funds to purchase recommended air and space books of all types. Most of the Air Force Book Program selections and related volumes, which are not distributed in the monthly kits, are selected and ordered by AF base librarians. Thus each AF library contains a fairly complete collection of all current aerospace publications. Librarians also procure technical, legal, and governmental publications, and each library adds those publications needed to meet specific reader requirements. In addition base libraries subscribe to many popular and technical magazines and file recent issues. Materials in main base libraries are unclassified.

Technical libraries are found at Air Force Systems Command and Air Force Logistics Command bases, centers, laboratories, and other activities. They are also found in other commands at installations which require scientific and technical research as part of the mission. AF technical libraries offer excellent specialized facilities, for example, the libraries of the Office of Aerospace Research and the Office of the Surgeon General at Hq USAF and the AF Cambridge Research Laboratory at Laurence G. Hanscom Field, Bedford, Massachusetts. Such libraries maintain collections of unpublished official reports, studies, and symposium proceedings, as well as officially published pamphlets, periodicals, brochures, and commercially published technical materials in the particular area of the organization's mission. The materials in technical libraries consist of both classified and unclassified items.

Information officers at all levels of command can arrange for writers to conduct research in base and technical library facilities, the latter within the provisions of security regulations.

Air Force Photo Files

The Air Force Photo Files, officially known as the Documentary Photo Library, a branch of the Library Division, Detachment 1, Aeronautical Chart and Information Center, are presently located in the Pentagon. The files contain several general categories of black and white photos.

The "personal portraits" group includes photos of all general officers, aces, Congressional Medal of Honor winners, outstanding AF personalities and leaders, flyers, air pioneers, etc., from 1908 to the present. This grouping numbers around 40,000 pictures.

"Documentary photography" is the second group, and it makes up the bulk of the files. It is organized geographically and by subject: personnel, training, airplanes, maintenance, bases, combat operations, research and development, electronics, WAF's, and a dozen other classifications; and it covers from 1908 to the present, including World War I, World War II, and Korea.

Especially outstanding is the photo coverage of combat in World War II and Korea. This group, as of 1 June 1961, included more than 191,486 pictures, covering military aviation thoroughly and civil aviation to a limited extent. An additional 16,625 color transparencies add to the documentary photography. Photo subjects range from the middle of World War II to the present.

Two outstanding personal collections, both on World War I, are in the AF files: the Major Robert Soubiran collection, taken by Soubiran during World War I, largely on the Lafayette Escadrille; and the Crowel collection which covers air activities and the American Expeditionary Force of World War I.

A limited number of commercial copyrighted photos are in AF files with permission for their use for official purposes only. Owners include *Life, Jane's All The World's Aircraft,* the wire services, and other photo media.

The yearly inflow to the Photo Files from AF units world-wide is approximately 125,000 black and white negatives and color transparencies and 9000 prints. Of these, approximately 10,000 color transparencies and black and white negatives and 3000 prints are retained for the permanent photo record.

The entire AF Photo File collection numbers well over 300,000 items, with a sizable annual growth. All are efficiently cataloged in organized photo notebooks, facilitating research and reproduction. Much of the National Archives photo collection is also available through the AF files.

Permission for research in the AF Photo Files may be requested from Chief, USAF Book Program, SAFOI. Normal charge for prints is 55¢ each. If the writer's project is officially approved, limited photography is provided without charge. Color transparencies are loaned for 6 weeks. If permanent retention is desired, a charge of $5.00 each is made.

The Aerial Library Branch, also a division of the Aeronautical Chart and Information Center, is the agency which catalogs and stores the extensive footage of all official aerial reconnaissance film. Much of this is classified; however still excerpts can be extracted on certain subject areas.

USAF Motion Picture Film Depository

This film depository, located at Wright-Patterson AFB, is the office of record for all motion picture film created or acquired by the U.S. Air Force. More than 85,000,000 feet of historical film from the originals of the early Wright brothers' flights to space probes today are cataloged and stored in 99 air-conditioned vaults. The main depository categories include:

The Wright Field Collection, 1920–1949. Film produced by or donated to the motion picture activity at Wright Field. It contains valuable copies of film on the early Wright brothers' flights that were donated by Orville Wright. It also covers the early research and development activities which took place at Wright Field or were photographed by Air Force photographers through the period up to the end of World War II. Included also in this film collection are views of the principal types of aircraft produced

by or procured by the Air Force from 1908 until 1949. Wright Field photographers also covered special historical events, such as the early air races and record flights. Additional aviation documentation for the early period was donated by newsreel companies.

World War I, 1918–1919. A small number of films dealing with miscellaneous aviation activities and the activities of several pursuit squadrons.

World War II, 1941–1946. Comprehensive coverage of U.S. Army Air Forces in all theaters of war; also documentation of domestic activities, international conferences, special events. Films of activities of our allies and seized enemy films are included, the latter showing the missile developments in Nazi Germany.

Korean Conflict, 1951–1953. Films made in the Korean theater of operations, with coverage of related international and domestic events.

Research and Development Documentation, 1950–present. Films documenting research and development in military aviation performed by Air Force commands, principally the Air Force Systems Command, and by Air Force contractors, such as Boeing, Hughes, Convair, etc., working under Air Force contracts. This film shows the development and testing of modern aircraft, missiles, rockets, and related components, and research in astronautics, aeromedicine, and other sciences related to space exploration.

General Air Force Documentary Photography, 1950–present. Films shot by Air Force photographic units, principally units of the Air Photographic and Charting Service, in the United States and in all areas of the world where the United States maintains air bases or exercises a friendly interest. These films show world-wide command or base operations and personnel, special projects or special events of national or regional interest, and coverage of missile and space development of general interest for public information.

Official Air Force Film Subjects, 1949–present. These consist of training films, special film projects, film training aids, Air Force news reviews, and film reports containing official Air Force doctrine approved by Hq USAF for training, informational, or promotional purposes.

The total film footage of the depository is cataloged on more than 1,000,000 subject file cards, simplifying pinpoint research to specific areas.

Each year the depository receives 8,000,000 feet of new film subjects. Almost all of this annual input is kept for periods of time ranging from a few months to a few years. Retention timetables govern the various classes of footage received. Film with retention value as historical documentation of Air Force operation and development is retained beyond the first ten years. The most important films, such as air operations during war periods, the Wright brothers' flights, or the first successful satellite launch, are retained permanently at the National Archives after active use by the Air Force has been completed.

Writers, historians, researchers, and publishers can acquire stills from the motion picture footage, or clips, on subjects ranging the entire scope of Air Force growth and operation. Commercial producers of films can likewise obtain film clips or sound effects. A nominal fee is charged for reproduction.

Some of the film comes under restrictions preventing free use, for

reasons of prior copyright, security classification, or legal limitation. Aerial views of military installations or other key target areas are restricted. Exceptions may be granted, upon specific request.

Nongovernment requests for film or stills must be submitted to and approved by Director of Information, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, Washington 25, D.C., Attn: SAFOI-3B.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

On the science and technology of flight, NASA research facilities are highly recommended for their technical literature, which includes domestic and foreign books, periodicals, documents, reports, and studies. NASA has growing collections on the social impact and education aspects of the space age, as well as rounded motion picture and photograph collections on space technology and sciences. It has no material on weapon systems.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington 25, D.C., is the offspring of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA), established in 1915. Its technical collections antedate World War I. With its present space exploration mission, many of NASA's programs are of direct interest to writers and researchers working on launch vehicles, manned space flight, and space science subjects.

The following points of contact in NASA Headquarters at Washington are suggested:

Office of Technical Information and Educational Programs
NASA Technical Library: probably the best single collection of technical literature in the world on all phases of aeronautics and astronautics.
NASA Educational Programs: active workshop and science education materials.
NASA Historical Office: working collection of NACA and NASA monographs and related materials.
NASA Audio and Visual Division: a wide range of motion pictures and still photos about space sciences and flight.
Office of Public Information
In addition to its information desks, OPI has a wide range of informational releases, current photos, space activity summaries, etc.

The following NASA centers and facilities throughout the country offer a useful point of contact for research and writing. The local Director of Technical Information and/or the Public Information Office are recommended as points of contact for leads to information:

Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, California
Flight Research Center, Edwards, California
Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Maryland
Jet Propulsion Laboratory (Cal Tech), Pasadena, California

Langley Research Center, Langley AFB, Virginia
Lewis Research Center, Cleveland, Ohio
Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, Alabama
Space Task Group (Project Mercury), Langley AFB, Virginia
Western Operations Office, Santa Monica, California
Launch Operations Directorate, Cape Canaveral, Florida

National Archives

Here is another gold mine for the writer-researcher, especially on the early period of military aviation. Several general categories stand out: all the central files of the Office of the Chief of the Air Service, the Air Corps, and later the Army Air Forces, dating between 1917 and 1944, containing the top-level administrative, policy, and management documents; selected files of the Air Corps Library; AF patent files, 1918–1945; and complete GHQ Air Force files, 1935–1942.

Most important are the complete records of the Air Service in the American Expeditionary Force during World War I. On pre-World War I military aviation, the Archives retains the records of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer, under whom the Air Service was organized. Perhaps the most complete, comprehensive source existing anywhere on this subject is the "Gorrell History," a compilation of materials on the Air Service in the AEF. This monumental work contains more than 300 volumes of documents and narrative histories of Air Service units and supporting activities in France, including photos. It was gathered and edited by Lt. Col. Edgar S. Gorrell after World War I. Other miscellaneous reports and items on military and civilian aviation of the early period are also in the National Archives.

Research can be conducted in the files to the extent security permits. Most of the National Archives collection is unclassified; however classification still applies to some of the later World War II materials, 1939–1944. Permission for access to the unclassified records can be granted, and application should be made to the National Archives. Permission for access to classified AF records there should be made through the Chief, USAF Book Program, SAFOI.

The National Archives also holds a sizable collection of air photos. The significant categories include 6000 World War I negatives of the 1918–1919 period, one-half of which are aerial shots; over 200,000 personal portraits of individuals serving in the Air Force from World War I through the Twenties, Thirties, and World War II, including each cadet and officer and outstanding civilian or military personnel and VIP's; the Erickson collection of aviation activities in California, 1914–1918; several thousand lantern slides from the Wright brothers of 1903 through the Air Service era to 1946; 3000 Scott Field photos covering the period 1928–1937; a limited number of aerial mosaics; the complete file of Air Transport Command photos (25,000 to 30,000) taken over the flying routes during World War II, 1943–1945.

Recently the National Archives acquired the main file of official black

and white Navy air photography from the early days through 8 September 1945. This new addition numbers in the thousands. A special "Old File" of historical aircraft contains several thousand items from the early period.

National Archives photos are for sale at $1.00 each in 8 by 10 black and white. Detailed descriptions of the various classes and types of records can be obtained by writing to the National Archives, 7th and Pennsylvania Ave., N. W., Washington 25, D.C.

Library of Congress

Perhaps the most extensive mine for military as well as civilian aviation research is the Science and Technology Division of the Library of Congress. Here can be found upwards of 50,000 published books (in all languages) that deal directly and completely with aeronautics or aviation in the United States and foreign countries. Thousands more deal in part with flight or indirectly relate to it.

Approximately 4000 aviation periodicals, world-wide, (those still being published and those that have been discontinued) can be found in current and back issues. This number includes approximately 1500 U.S. periodical and serial titles such as magazines, reports, and pamphlets. In addition there exists a large collection of technical aeronautical reports, house organs, and trade literature, both historical and current.

For the "digger" into air history, the Library of Congress offers special types of aviation collections, including many rare, out-of-print books. Among these is the Tissandier collection of books and prints, a French collection essentially on ballooning purchased some time ago, which covers the period from the Montgolfier brothers to World War I. For the early period of powered flight there are the Hildebrandt, Hoernes, and Silberer collections, each with thousands of books, newspapers, pamphlets, and scattered primary sources. An extensive vertical file of clippings, preprints and reprints, photos, and related materials on personalities and events as well as aircraft and equipment covers the period from 1930 to 1953.

In addition there are whole collections of general news photos which are largely unorganized but which offer a gold mine of air pictures. Thousands of other photos which came with personal papers, such as those of General of the Armies H. H. Arnold and General Billy Mitchell, have been filed in the Library's general collection of prints and photographs. Since many items are not identified and do not have captions, their use requires a special knowledge of history or the help of an authority. Photos can be copied for a nominal fee.

One of the most important, significant sources for air power and military aviation is the manuscript collection. It comprises the papers of the Wright brothers, Octave Chanute, Charles A. Lindbergh (limited), Grover Loening, Glenn L. Martin, Generals Carl Spaatz, H. H. Arnold, Ira Eaker, Billy Mitchell, Hugh Knerr, Frank Andrews, Hoyt Vandenberg, Nathan F. Twining, in fact all AF Chiefs of Staff, and others. These papers include personal mementos, correspondence, diaries, journals, notes, reports, and a host of

miscellaneous items. Access to the private papers usually requires the written permission of the donors, or their heirs, and proper authorization from the Air Force for those sections still under security classification.

The microfilm deposit includes a number of special aviation subjects such as the Von Rohden collection, the historical files of the German Air Force in World War II, the Wright brothers' own scrapbooks, and a score of other items of special nature.

Research in the excellent facilities of the Library of Congress is open to civilian and military alike.

National Air Museum, Smithsonian Institution

In conjunction with an outstanding collection of aircraft, engines, and the hardware items of aviation history, the National Air Museum maintains a library of reference, drawing, and photographic materials.

Published books number more than 2000 volumes, all dealing with aviation history and the evolution of air technology. The photographic collection numbers more than 60,000 items, of which 10,000 have been photocopied. Other reference materials cover aviation subjects of historic value on aircraft, engines, general aviation, and biographies of pioneer airmen.

The Museum's library is available to researchers during normal work hours. Specific information requested will be searched for by the staff. Photo copies can be procured at cost to the correspondent. All requests should be addressed to the Director, National Air Museum, Smithsonian Institution, 10th and Independence Ave., S. W., Washington 25, D. C.

New York Public Library

The aeronautical and astronautical collection of the New York Public Library is strong in historical and contemporary works, magazine articles, and books. General categories include traditional and literary accounts, general works, lighter-than-air craft, heavier-than-air craft, engines, propellers, airplane flights, military aeronautics, World War I and World War II, civil aeronautics, air mail, polar expeditions, associations and conferences, jurisprudence, aeronautics and science, photography and surveying, animal flight, women in aeronautics.

Especially valuable is the Library's collection of military aviation in World Wars I and II. A large group of official narratives, historical studies, and personal narratives is international in scope.

In one area—unofficial Air Force unit histories out of World War II—the Library's collection is unique. A bibliography of the titles was published in 1958, entitled, *Unit Histories of the United States Air Forces: Including Privately Printed Personal Narratives,* compiled by C. E. Dornbusch (Hampton Books, Hampton Bays, New York). Two hundred sixty-eight individual titles are listed. Additional titles have been added to the collection since 1958, making it the outstanding repository of unofficial unit histories.

Other reference aids to research in the Library are *Guide to the Reference Collections of the New York Public Library* (1941), and *History of Aeronautics: A Selected List of References to Material in the New York Public Library,* compiled by William B. Gamble.

Research can be conducted during normal library hours. Request for further information or research should be addressed to the New York Public Library, Aeronautical Collection, Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, New York 18, New York.

Institute of Aerospace Science Library

The Lester D. Gardner Memorial Library of the Institute of Aerospace Science is cosponsored by the National Science Foundation and the Air Force Office of Aerospace Research, Hq USAF. This library is especially oriented to scientific and technical material. It contains approximately 8000 books, 6000 volumes of periodicals, and 50,000 reports. Included are the published proceedings of conferences and symposiums, individual papers presented at meetings of various technical societies, government reports, and an extensive, indexed collection of World War II German documents on microfilm.

Subject coverage includes all literature dealing with the design, development, testing, and operation of all types of air and space vehicles and with their associated propulsive units, instrumentation, guidance and control components, and support equipment. Large holdings can be found in the fields of fluid mechanics, structures, materials, electronics, and research equipment and facilities. Smaller amounts on special topics include advanced propulsion systems, magnetohydrodynamics and plasma, the effects of extreme temperature and radiation conditions, orbit and trajectory mechanics, inertial guidance, electronic control, and space medicine.

The IAS Library maintains a broad program of publication acquisition, of preparing abstracts and indexes, and of providing circulation, photo-copying, and reference services. Four hundred seventy-five different periodicals are regularly received, from Free World and Iron Curtain countries. Abstracts are prepared and published in *Aero/Space Engineering,* an official monthly publication of the IAS. Each year these are published in a cumulated separate volume.

The IAS Historical Library, a separate section of the IAS, contains an ample supply of published books, periodicals, clippings, and pamphlets on ballooning, dirigibles, early aircraft, famous flights and personalities, and the employment of aircraft in commerce and warfare. It also has an extensive collection of bibliographies and reference tools on aviation and space. These materials are not available for loan.

A useful adjunct is the Sherman Fairchild collection of aeronautical photographs, including more than 50,000 photos of airplanes, balloons, dirigibles, rockets, and persons prominent in the field of aviation. The collection also includes a clipping file on aviation personalities. A print file is maintained, and reproductions are available at $5.00 per glossy print.

The IAS facilities are open to individual and corporate members in the United States and Canada. Publications are loaned for a period of two weeks. Photo copying costs the correspondent 30¢ per page; film copying, 20¢ per frame. Bibliographies on technical subjects will be compiled at a charge of $5.00 per hour.

The IAS Reading and Research room is open to members from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. daily (week days only). Catalogs, bibliographies, and indexes are available to assist in research.

The IAS Library is located at National Headquarters Building, Institute of Aerospace Sciences, Inc., 2 East 64th Street, New York, New York. Mr. John J. Glennon is Librarian. Phone TEmpleton 8-3800.

Ross-Barrett Historical Aeronautics Collection

This collection of aviation materials is part of the Denver Public Library, Denver, Colorado. It consists of 3500 items covering the period from man's first preoccupation with flight to the present day.

Books, manuscripts, prints, and photographs range in date from 1524 to the present. The material deals with the science of aeronautics and the historical development of aviation, and includes such items as novels, drama, and poetry which show the evolution of aviation and its impact on modern civilization. Magnificent color prints depict early balloon ascensions and early experimental machines.

The collection is open for research during normal library hours.

Army Library (Pentagon)

Useful and handy for the writer in the Washington area is the Army Library located in Room 1A518, Pentagon. This facility contains 730,000 books, periodicals, documents, and language records covering the subject areas of military affairs, physical sciences, government and politics, scientific technology, and international relations.

The Library maintains subscriptions to 2000 general and special periodicals, 400 of which are in foreign languages from Free World and Iron Curtain countries. Also included are all military and civilian, official and commercial, technical and professional journals, legal and medical periodicals. Back files of many of the periodicals, such as *Saturday Evening Post,* are available from 1942 (the date the Library was organized) to present.

Special collections of documents include reports and student theses of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces; graduate theses of Georgetown and George Washington Universities; and a complete file of official regulations, field and technical manuals. A bibliographic section prepares bibliographies for official use.

Anyone assigned to or employed by the Department of Defense may borrow materials from the Army Library. Other government agencies may acquire them on interlibrary loan basis.

Military personnel and civilian writers can research in the Army Library during duty hours, 8:30 A.M.—5 P.M. Monday through Friday. Only military

personnel are authorized to check out material. Adequate facilities exist for research in the Library's reading rooms.

U.S. Army Photographic Agency

The U.S. Army Photographic Agency Reference Library, located in the Pentagon, contains photographs of all Army activities under its command, including a substantial amount of early Army aviation and World War II air-combat coverage.

The Library has two general categories of black and white photos. Yearly input is 20,000 prints. The first category, the "P" group, contains portrait-type photos of all general officers and noted Army personnel, such as Congressional Medal of Honor winners, past and present Secretaries of Defense, Secretaries of the Army, etc. This group contains 66,000 photos. The second category is broken down by subject and geographical location, branches of the Army service, both ZI and overseas, in a cross-reference index. These photographs are in easily accessible notebooks and include such topics as personnel, training, maneuvers, parachute troops, armored forces, Army missiles, guns and weapons, early Army aviation in World War II, and the present-day Army air arm, Medical, Chemical, Infantry, Ordnance, Transportation, etc. These Signal Corps photos number approximately 582,000. The Library has negatives on 468,000 Signal Corps prints in addition to 18,000 color transparencies. The color transparencies are filed under broad subject areas. The Army Photo Library is unique in that it contains microfilm ranging in subject from the Revolutionary War through the Punitive Expedition of 1916. This material is easily identified for selection purposes by its "B" number. Other collections cover natives of foreign countries, foreign military forces and equipment, disaster areas, fires, hurricanes, military ceremonies, religious activities, World War II major conferences including Yalta, Malta, and Potsdam.

The files are open to writers, researchers, and authorized personnel from 8:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. Monday through Friday. Persons desiring access to the files should apply in the Reference Library Branch, 5A 486. Photos are available to authorized personnel without charge in conjunction with a writing venture. For personal collections, etc., there is a charge of 55¢ for a glossy print, 60¢ for a matte print, and $5.00 for a color transparency.

Aerospace Industries Association

The Aerospace Industries Association of America will provide, on request, background information on subjects dealing with the American airframe and missile industry and will give specific addresses to contact in the aerospace industry and affiliated manufacturing fields for further reference on specific subjects. Two comprehensive AIA publications, the annual *Aerospace Year Book* and *Air Facts and Figures*, cover American military and civilian aviation, its industrial base, and the airline industry. Writers should contact the Director of Public Relations, Aerospace Industries Association, 610 Shoreham Building, Washington, D.C.

other sources of air research

Scores of documentary and photo collections are held by private individuals, industrial companies, and various university and public libraries.

Magazine editorial offices frequently offer the researcher excellent materials in their picture morgues and in back issues of the magazines themselves. Among such publications are *Air Force/Space Digest, Flying, Flight* (British periodical), *Saturday Evening Post,* and *Life.* Issues of defunct commercial magazines like *Aero Digest* and *Collier's* should not be overlooked.

Six magazines provide especially lucrative sources. The back issues of two now defunct offer excellent historical coverage of military and civilian aviation. *U.S. Air Services,* edited by Earl Findley, discontinued in the middle 1950's, was a monthly slick aviation magazine that brackets the history of aviation in America. The *U.S. Air Services News Letter,* begun in October 1918 (later renamed successively the *Air Corps News Letter, Army Air Forces News Letter,* and *Air Force Magazine*), was an official bimonthly publication of the Army air arm for internal distribution. It presented a wealth of facts on Army air operations, aircraft, personalities, policy, directives, training, etc. Back issues of these publications can be found in the Air University Library, the Library of Congress, the Army Library (Pentagon), and other major air collections.

Current and back issues of the four still-active magazines are available:

Air Force/Space Digest, published by the Air Force Association, 1901 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C. A nationally distributed slick monthly dealing primarily with the USAF.

The Airpower Historian, published by the Air Force Historical Foundation, Maxwell AFB, Alabama. A slick-format quarterly carrying a wide variety of articles on air power and AF history.

Air University Quarterly Review (established in 1947), published by Air University, Maxwell AFB, Alabama. A quarterly periodical dealing with aerospace doctrine, strategy, tactics, techniques, and related concepts.

American Aviation Historical Society Journal, published periodically by the American Aviation Historical Society, P.O. Box 2013, Torrance, California. A comprehensive photo-narrative-statistical coverage of air historical subjects and aircraft, dating back to the beginning of powered flight.

The Imperial War Museum, in London, England, is an excellent source for both photo and manuscript research on flight history, especially valuable for military aviation and World War I and World War II coverage.

The documentary and photo archives of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps contain extensive coverage of aviation activities relating to those branches of the service from the early days to the present. Information on research sources and requests for access to them should be made to the Chief, Magazine and Book Branch, Office of Information, U.S. Navy, Washington 25, D.C.

Access to U.S. Army Archives should be requested of the Chief, Magazine and Book Branch, Office of Information, U.S. Army, Washington 25, D.C.

Headquarters United States Air Force